

Lynch Supports CARES Act, COVID-19 Relief

Cong. Stephen F. Lynch (MA-08) voted earlier this week to pass H.R. 748, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to help provide medical equipment to first responders and health-care workers and financial relief to individuals, families and small businesses across the country.

“America is currently facing a grave health emergency with a serious impact on our economy,” Lynch said. “This latest piece of legislation is an important step in our ongoing effort to protect the American people and ensure workers and families have the resources they need throughout this unprecedented crisis.”

Here are some of the initiatives in the CARES Act that will benefit the residents of Massachusetts:

- A \$150 Billion State and Local Coronavirus Relief Fund: Creates a \$150 billion State and Local Coronavirus Relief Fund to provide states and localities resources to address the coronavirus pandemic. It is estimated that Massachusetts will receive approximately \$2.673 billion.
- \$260 Billion in Expanded Unemployment Benefits: Includes numerous provisions to improve unemployment benefits including an additional \$600 per week for the next four months, providing an additional 13 weeks of feder-

ally funded benefits, and expanding eligibility to include workers in the gig economy and self-employed workers.

- Direct Cash Payments to Lower and Middle-Income Americans: Provides for a direct cash payment to lower-and middle-income Americans of \$1,200 for each adult and \$500 for each child, beginning to phase out at an annual income of \$75,000 for individuals and \$150,000 for a married couple.

- More Than \$375 Billion in Small Business Relief: Provides more than \$375 billion in small business relief, including \$349 billion for forgivable loans to small businesses to pay their employees and keep them on the payroll; \$17 billion for debt relief for current and new SBA borrowers; and \$10 billion in immediate disaster grants.

- Approximately \$200 Billion for Hospitals, Health Care Workers, and Health Research: Provides an investment of about \$200 billion in our hospitals, health systems, and health research, including expanding funding for the personal protective equipment desperately needed by our health care workers, including ventilators, n95 masks, gowns, gloves, etc.

- More Than \$100 Billion in Additional Emergency Appropriations, including the following:

- o **Transit Agencies:** Provides \$25 billion to transit agencies, which have all seen a drastic drop in revenues as social distancing has been implemented. This funding is to be used to protect the jobs of the employees of the transit agencies, funding their paychecks during this public health emergency. Massachusetts will receive \$1,044,023,423 under this program.

- o **HUD Emergency Solution Grants:** Provides \$2 billion for HUD Emergency Solution Grants to states that will be distributed by formula. These grants are designed to address the impact of the coronavirus among individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and to support additional homeless assistance, prevention, and eviction prevention assistance. Of this \$2 billion, Massachusetts will receive \$60.8 million.

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ON THURSDAY, MARCH 26, Quincy Police officers were dispatched to 125 Sea St. for a report of an unresponsive female in a vehicle. Officer Donnelly, who was at Southern Artery responded and arrived first on scene. The victim's grandson was with the victim and started chest compressions. Officer Donnelly extricated the victim from the vehicle and then started CPR while the grandson provided rescue breathing. Officer Leuchte arrived on location with an AED and attached it to the victim. A shock was advised and given to the victim. Officer Donnelly and the grandson continued CPR. Officers Michael McNeil and Tom Gaeta arrived on location and coordinated getting the ambulance and Fire Department personnel to the scene. Once the ambulance arrived the victim was turned over to the Paramedics, who reported that the victim had regained a pulse and was transported to the hospital. Nice Work! Submitted by Quincy Police Crime Prevention Officer Lt. Dan Minton. More police news on Page 10.

DA Morrissey Responds To COVID-19 Threat

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quarters of jails and houses of correction, creates the potential for mass spread. “The Norfolk County Sheriff, Jerry McDermott, to his credit, has invested in sophisticated sanitizing equipment, developed both sanitary and medical protocols, and is screening employees every day for fitness. But we still see it as important that we take steps to safely decrease the number of non-violent offenders in custody,” Morrissey said.

Before the current move to decrease the population at the Norfolk County Correctional Complex in Dedham, the facility was at roughly 77% of design capacity, and every Department of Corrections facility in the state is below its design capacity, according to state officials. “We are not starting from the kind of overcrowded levels that are making other institutions even less safe during this time, but we are still working to do more,” Morrissey said.

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